



THE HAWK'S EYE

Volume X Issue I

When the news breaks, we print it two months later!

November 2005



Thousands Forced to Evacuate New Orleans

By Emily Constance
Staff Writer

On Monday, August 29, 2005, a monstrous Category Five hurricane named Katrina slammed the Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama borders. Sustained winds reached up to 155 mph with gusts as high as 170 mph.

Waters from Lake Pontchartrain and the Mississippi River poured into the bowl-shaped city of New Orleans, swallowing everything in its path. The levees, the only form of protection from the floodwaters, had been breached and water continued to rise.

Days melted into weeks as thousands of people stranded in the city clung to porches and roofs that had not been blown away. The conditions they faced were unlivable. The water that crept into houses was filled with human waste, dead and live human and animal bodies, harmful toxins and chemicals, and many forms of dangerous bacteria. Provisions were, and continue to be, scarce and New Orleans residents were dying by

the dozen. Hundreds of men, women, and children were forced to spend days in their attics in temperatures upward of 105 degrees.

There are countless pictures of the effects of Hurricane Katrina: an old woman, long since

perished, in a wheelchair with her head drooping down, with one of many deceased lying just feet away draped in nothing but a blanket; sobbing families hunched over dead family members or standing in front of the remains of what was once their homes. One particular picture shows a house filled with nine people within one

family that had died because of the storm. It is nearly impossible to imagine what that must have been like, or what the last person

enter, spreading diseases such as cholera.

A New Orleans resident ventured into the city near the end

of September in a pea rogue (a type of boat) to see the damage done to his house. The man recalls, "I could smell the city from miles away in Grammercy. I almost

threw up from the stench of fish and sewage." Another woman gives a first-hand account of what happened. "I work in a hospital so I had to stay. When [the hurricane] hit, it was like having a huge hose sprayed onto the window. Water started leaking in and the wind howled and screeched like nothing I've ever heard before. When I was finally able to go into my

neighborhood, I could see the water line up on the gutters. Everything was a dull ashen color like Mount Vesuvius had erupted. There was a broken window where rescuers entered the house to search for survivors and a spray-painted "X" to show that no one was inside. When I opened the door to my house, there was six inches of foul, noxious, unidentifiable sludge covering the stairs and landing. The light fixture above me was draped in sea grass."

Many hoped to find comfort at the Super Dome, away from the destruction and the appalling looters and thugs found in New Orleans. However, the Super Dome also failed to provide reassurance as patches of rain flowed into the dome through large holes created by the powerful winds stripping off outer layers. Filthy flood waters seeped into their cramped living quarters, and evacuees once again were relocated, this time to the Astro Dome in Texas.

Now that things have quieted down slightly, the fo-

(continued on page 2)



Renovations Aggravate Many

By Andrew Platt
Staff Writer

"Please Excuse our Appearance as We Build for the Future" is what it says over the main entrance to GHS. But has the GHS construction project encouraged anyone about the "future" of the school, or has it just created a huge headache for its staff and students? Classes have been moved to different rooms, classroom supplies are missing left and right, and hallways are gridlocked, making many students and teachers late to classes. About the construction, one freshman says, "I don't think it has affected me at all. I never really notice because I stay on the opposite side of the school and don't use the stairs connected to the construction." But not all students can avoid the construction. "The sound of drilling and construction can really get annoying during

class," was a comment made by many. Construction definitely seems to be interrupting teachers who are trying to teach and students trying to learn. After talking to both staff and students, it turns out that

**CAUTION
HARD HAT
AREA**

construction is changing lesson plans. Science classes have been without water at times during the beginning of the years. This is a huge distraction, and has forced teachers to stray from the original way they wanted to teach classes.

It is not just current GHS students who have reactions to the construction.

A member of the class of 2005 states, "It wasn't as bad as I thought it would be [last year]...The only thing that really was a hassle was parking. I'm sure staff and students will get used to [the construction] this year just like I did last year."

However, the situation has changed this year. One student says, "I thought school was a little challenging, but the construction has been distracting me because everything seems to be out of whack." Clocks have been off and bells have

been on the tardy side. But should everyone blame the construction for this? On this matter, a GHS student stated, "I think a lot of people are very critical of the construction, but really a lot of things that may not have been perfect are problems that would have happened without construction." The matter is up to interpretation. We are being very critical of the construction, without considering the fact that no school is perfect. So think to yourself, is the construction really to blame for every little thing that goes wrong?

Parking Improves Slowly, but Surely

By Meijing Counsilman
Staff Editor

It's 7:15 AM and you're rushing to school, hoping for the last spot at the field house parking lot (also known as the junior lot or the JL), only to end up parking in the muddy grass. This unfortunately can be the case of many seniors that don't wake up at the crack of dawn to make it to the highly coveted upper senior lot adjacent to the gym.

However, the long wet grassy walks (and soon to be snow) might become a thing of the past for many of the class of 2006, with the exception of those bad tardy kids.

Part of the huge construction project and overhaul of the school is the building of new parking lots, and just in time too. As many have noticed, there is a new parking lot being built where the old tennis courts used to be. With Mr. Dunbar pushing for us students, this new parking lot is expected to be ready mid-November, 2005.

However, this deadline is not guaranteed to

be met, depending on availability of asphalt and other construction necessities and materials needed for final touches. There is also always the issue of having different contractors work together, which can be impossible to coordinate.

The new parking lot also comes with the creation of a totally new entrance from New London Turnpike, expected to be completed in April of 2006 or sooner. With a total of 220 spots, initially only 110 will be available to seniors, with the rest going to our hard working construction workers. Still, 110 new parking spots is nothing to scoff at, and it's possible even more may become available. The long forgotten beloved senior lot may not be lost forever for us.

As for the junior lot all the way over at the track & field, it might actually once again become true to its name and open to juniors in the near future, so don't lose hope! But for now, seniors, be grateful for the parking privileges given to us; it may feel tough now, but it is getting better.

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Point/Counterpoint

Should states be allowed to pass laws allowing physician assisted suicide?

PAS Should be the Decision of the Individual

by Jay Zevin

Physician Assisted Suicide (PAS) is one in a long line of morally divisive issues our country currently faces. However, there are distinct differences between PAS and issues like abortion and stem cell research. The differences lie chiefly in two areas: the taking of another's life, and humanity.

One of the biggest objections to abortion is that it is one human taking another human's life. It isn't important when you believe that a fetus becomes a human. What is important is that PAS doesn't involve one human deciding to take another human's life. PAS involves only the individual's decision to die, or not.

This decision is deeply personal, and each individual should have the right to make it. If your relationship with the Lord says that it is wrong to take your own life, then by all means suffer through to the end, but give those who feel the Lord doesn't need them to suffer the opportunity not to.

Another issue that people talk about when it comes to abortion is civility and humanity. Some people cannot reconcile our civilized nature with the decision to take a potential life. However these same people fail to see the humanity in helping someone to end their pain and suffering.

With scientific and medical breakthroughs, people are living longer today than ever before. However this also sets up a new set of circumstances that our society hasn't faced. Today's doctors have increased life span greatly, but this also means that many people today are living with greater suffering during the later years of their lives. Why not allow these patients the medical option of not suffering through these ailments for an extra few weeks of life? Instead, allow each individual and his or her family the choice of putting someone out of his or her misery.

PAS allows for one individual to make a choice about his or her life. PAS allows one individual to decide to put themselves out of undue pain and suffering.

To some people, fighting to the end is how they want to go, and I have a lot of respect for that. However, to some people it makes a lot more sense to not drag oneself and one's family through financial and emotional hardship for an extra few weeks or months of life. I have a lot of respect for that option as well.

Either way, allow each person to make his or her own decision. Each state should allow Physician Assisted Suicide, and leave the rest up to the individual.

Medical Professionals Should Not be Ending Lives

by Andrew Elash

Physician Assisted Suicide has slowly become one of the country's most divisive issues, both morally and politically. The current Bush Administration has taken a firm stance against Oregon's Death with Dignity Act and has vowed to strike it down. Inevitably there will be even greater debate when Attorney General Gonzales brings the administration's case against the Oregon law before the Supreme Court in the next term.

The issue of Physician Assisted Suicide begs this question: should our medical professionals be permitted to provide assistance to terminally ill patients, who are mentally sound, if the patients wish to end their own lives? It may seem humane and compassionate for doctors to assist patients who have no options but to succumb to their illnesses. Yet I believe allowing this sort of treatment to become permissible will slowly move our country toward the so-called "culture of death."

Nobody wants to deny a person suffering from terminal illness the chance to relieve his or her suffering. Yet doctors should have no role in deciding the proper time that a person should die. When patients request assistance from a physician to end their life, that is, to write them a lethal prescription after a rigorous evaluation process determining if they warrant the assistance, the physician becomes involved in the end-of-life process. That is unacceptable.

Suicide is a highly personal decision, and involving another person in that suicide is unacceptable. Medical professionals should never become involved with a process to end a patient's life. That is simply not their duty. Doctors are healers and should preserve life at all costs. They should work to relieve pain, but doctors should never consider death as a means to alleviate suffering. According to the Declaration of Geneva, to which every physician subscribes, doctors shall avoid doing harm, respect life, and never allow considerations of disease and disability to intervene between their duty and their patient. PAS clearly violates that standing of medical professionals.

However, it is not the role of the federal government to intervene on this issue, and should remain an issue for the states to regulate. The states have a certain expectation of sovereignty on issues of medicine, and the government should not become involved. Yet whatever the case, death should never be an acceptable form of healthcare for the sick and dying.

Disaster Hits New Orleans; Thousands are Forced to Leave

cus is no longer on the devastation of Hurricane Katrina but on the politicians and how they address the issue of the government's lack of preparation. Federal and state governments are scrambling to amend their mistakes, and while there is still a great deal of finger pointing and blame to be spread, the main concern is getting the city back up and running. It is estimated that it could take another five years for the city to be properly sterilized and rebuilt; that is 1825 days of worrying and heartbreak for the

"Big Easy" natives. The famous New Orleans Jazz and Heritage

It is estimated that it could take another five years for the city to be properly sterilized and rebuilt...

Festival, Mardi Gras, White Linen Night, and countless

other traditions will be postponed indefinitely.

Millions of dollars in Katrina aid have already been donated from all over the United States and countries over the world. Despite the horror scenes displayed by the media, New Orleans residents are still being overwhelmed by the generosity shown by others. Families are being kind enough to allow complete strangers to live with them and schools and companies are donating thousands of dollars.

Nurses, doctors and volunteers are still going around handing out ice, water and Ready-To-Eat meals to many evacuees. Each dollar given can buy a bottle of water and save someone's life. All we can do now is wait. We wait and we pray and we hope. We have faith in our rich cultural city. We will rebuild our

city stronger than before. This is only temporary.

Emily Constance has relocated to Glastonbury following her experiences in New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina.

Patriot Act Strikes Unnecessary Fear

By Hunter Kramer
Staff Writer

In this day and age we are assaulted by threats in the news. Often these menaces cause panic. Among these threats in the past and present have been Anthrax, West Nile, SARS, Mad Cow, and terrorism.

Opinion

The truth is that these risks pose no real danger to our lives, but do threaten our freedom.

Take terrorism as an example. Terrorism seems to be the overwhelming fear these days, and the results are clear: two wars and the Patriot Act. Is it rational to fear an extreme religious cult 8,000 miles away? I do not intend to play down

the loss of Americans on September 11, but I contend that there is little the government can do to prevent such tragedies inflicted by a few individuals.

Our fears have spurred the government to enact the Patriot Act. This act gives the government unprecedented powers that violate several rights, such as our 4th Amendment rights of search and seizure. According to the ACLU in section 213, "The USA Patriot Act expands law enforcement's ability to conduct secret 'sneak and peek' searches of your home. Investigators can enter your home or office, take pictures and seizures without informing you that a warrant was issued,

for an indefinite period of time."

Our wars overseas, although wholly deserved by those attacked, increase our chances of being attacked. More people in the Middle East hate us now more than ever before. Government will take every chance it gets to seize power, regardless of its citizen's rights. History proves this, and blind faith in government has historically led to tyranny. In the words of President Roosevelt, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself." It is possible for even mere students to make a difference by putting pressure on Congress. Simply call the US Capitol switchboard at 1-202-224-3121 and make your voice heard about section 213 of the Patriot Act.

THE HAWK'S EYE STAFF

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A Guide to Fall's Cultural Holidays

By Jocie Kluger
Staff Editor

Every year, when the fond memories of summer seem nothing more than dreams from long ago, GHS students discover that, to their delight, the school will be closed two extra days during the beginning weeks of October. Many spend the time shopping at the mall, hanging out with friends, or sleeping-in until 2:30, but for the school's Jewish population, the two days represent the most important holidays of the year: Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Actually, the two days do not always fall in early October; sometimes they are more towards the end of the month or as early as September. The dates vary because Jewish holidays are based on a lunar calendar, a system with months of approximately twenty-nine days each. As the years go by, holidays fall earlier according to the solar calendar. Suddenly, every Jewish event will occur very late in the year; this is because every several years, an extra month is added to keep the calendar in sync with the changing of seasons. The actual dates marked on calendars can also be confusing because

the holidays begin when the sun sets on the preceding evening.

This year, Rosh Hashanah was on the night of October 3, and Yom Kippur was on the 13th. The ceremonial approaches to these holy days vary quite widely, and the ceremony described here is merely one of millions of fashions in which Jews observe Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.



Abiding by the Jewish tradition of involving food in any holiday, Jews welcome Rosh Hashanah, the New Year, with a large dinner. Challah bread, normally a braided loaf for the weekly Sabbath, is kneaded into a circle comparable to the size of a car's hubcap, and is eaten with honey. Continuing the sugary theme, preparers of the evening's meal slice apple wedges for dipping into a small saucer filled with additional honey. The dinner is

not restricted to only challah and apples; matzo ball soup tends to work its way into the menu, as well as many American entrées.

Following the meal, families rush to synagogue for evening services (latecomers must sit in uncomfortable plastic chairs in the back). The Rabbi leads the congregation in Hebrew prayers, and everyone wishes each other *L'shanah tovah*, a "Happy New Year."

Morning services proceed in much the same way; the cantor sings prayers, and the Rabbi gives a sermon about improving oneself for the year to come. Readers chant an early passage of the Torah, a heavy scroll containing the Jewish Bible. Particularly unique to the High Holy Days, a *shofar*, the carved ram's horn blown like a trumpet, symbolically announces the holiday. A practiced musician sounds the *shofar* in different patterns for about two minutes, and concludes the ceremony with one sustained blast, which may last up to forty-five seconds.

After a two hour break, the worshippers meet for *tashlikh*, a final "casting off" of last year's sins. The service is a short recitation where the *shofar* sounds once more and Jews

toss pieces of bread into the water, representing the cleansing of sins. *Tashlikh* completes the Rosh Hashanah festivities of the day, and congregants ride the ferry back to Glastonbury.

The following morning, the synagogue holds a second set of services, but the next large turnout is the arrival of Yom Kippur in about a week. The ten days in between the

Yom Kippur with somber prayers in the evening.

Yom Kippur is celebrated almost identically to Rosh Hashanah, except that no one consumes any food or drink. The young children, the elderly, and the ill, are exempt, but everyone else is strongly encouraged to participate in the fast.

Somewhat paradoxically, many synagogues use Yom Kippur as an opportunity to hold large food drives for local soup kitchens. The results are successful because the congregants sympathize with people who do not have a choice about abstaining from food each day. However, carrying a bag filled with food tends to make it more difficult to endure the fast.

As soon as the sky darkens and three stars are visible, the fast is over. Many worshippers eat a dinner prepared several days earlier. Other families satisfy their hunger in any of the town's restaurants, including Chili's, Bertucci's, or Jasmine's, where chefs are likely to notice a large fluctuation in the number of appetizer orders. Thus, the High Holy Day season ends as it begins- with a feast!



two holidays, "The Days of Awe," are somewhat like a probation period. Throughout this time the behavior of a Jew determines his or her fate for the New Year.

The holiest day of the year, Yom Kippur, is less cheerful than Rosh Hashanah. It is the "Day of Atonement," and is one last chance for Jews to be inscribed in the Book of Life; worshippers spend the holiday fasting and praying for forgiveness for any sins they have committed. *Kol Nidre* starts

Sudoku Puzzle by Billy Hall

Sudoku puzzles are amazingly fun. They are solved when each number 1 thru 9 appears once in every horizontal row, in each vertical column, and in each of the 3-by-3 grids. Sound impossible? Not once you get the hang of it. There are clues and hints that let you know where to put numbers. For example, look at the center 3-by-3 grid. There is no 6 yet, so we know that one square has to be a 6 in either the 4th, 5th, or 6th row. Since there is already a 6 in the 4th row, another 6 can not be repeated in that row, and if you look at the box to the right, there is a 6 in the 5th row- so a 6 cannot be repeated. Therefore, we know the 6 has to be in the 6th row of the center box, and since 2 numbers are already filled in, we know the 6 must be in the bottom left corner of the center box. I already filled it in for you. Have fun!

6			3				1	
		4						
2	3							
	6							
8								6
			6	9	2		4	
							5	9
		8			9	2		
	9				3			8

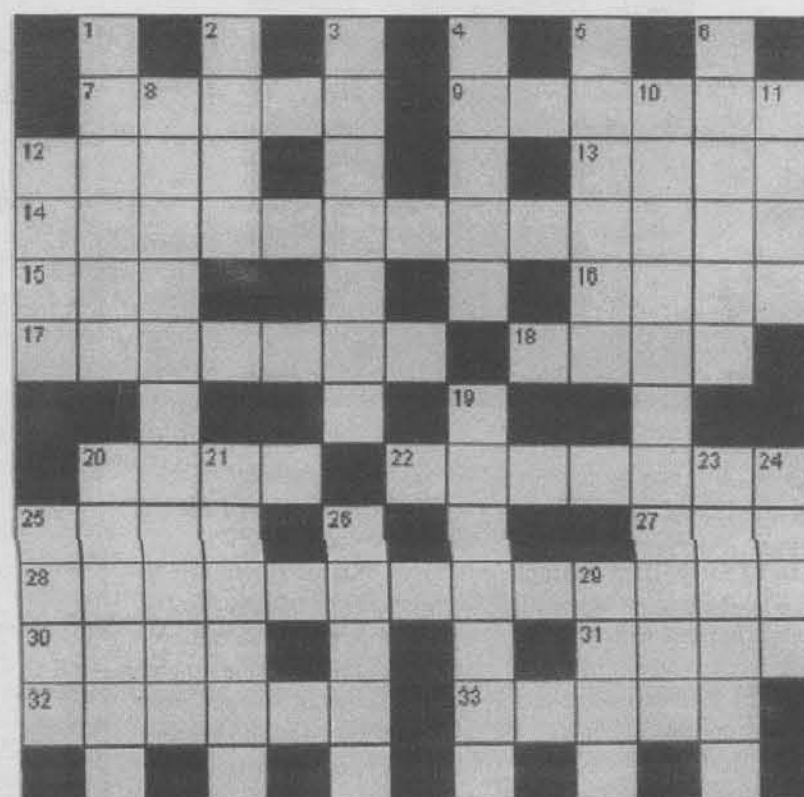
Crossword Puzzle by Billy Hall

Across

7. Evergreen tree
9. Unfastens
12. Agitate
13. Upon
14. Amount a tablespoon can hold
15. Single unit
16. Departed
17. Kind of selling
18. Funeral woodpile
20. Sleeps briefly
22. Knapsacks
25. Drill a hole
27. Also
28. Rebirth of the soul in a new body
30. Examination
31. Steals from
32. Dining cars
33. Directed a light

Down

1. Plant science
2. Female child
3. Small animal
4. Gossip
5. Pertaining to a sponge
6. Cause to be out of tune
8. Person who advocates liberty
10. Data
11. Flat-fish
12. Cease
19. Person who plays the piano
20. You cannot get out this way
21. Writers
23. Peanut
24. Male offspring
25. Spawned
26. Temporary stop
29. Stepped



SPORTS

Football Team Vies for Conference Title

By David Pucino
Staff Editor

The varsity football team has been putting together its best season in years. The team is 7-2 going into the Thanksgiving game at Windsor. One big contributor to the team's success has been stellar defense.

Before the game versus Southington, the defense had only allowed 41 points, ranking first in the conference.

The next-best defense had allowed over twice that amount. "There's no question our defense is great," says captain Jay Zevin. "That takes the pressure off the offense. Also, the defense is never on the field long- we force turnovers. We're way ahead in the turnover margin."

Another factor has been past experience, with Zevin, along with fellow captains AJ Lyons, Alex Cassarino,

and Aaron Crosson, leading the way. All but two starters had started on varsity before this year. "We just have another year of experience," explains senior Thomas Joyce. "We are an

of challenges. Injuries to Lyons and quarterback John Seigle, two of the team's biggest stars, could have put the season in jeopardy.

Luckily, other players stepped up to fill the holes. "Donovan Moore flourished as quarterback in East Hartford," notes Zevin. "We're a deep team, especially on the defensive side of the ball. Pressure doesn't fall on any



old team; we have 8 senior starters on defense and 7 on offense." In addition, the team has put in many extra hours in off-season training. "We lifted as a team all winter and spring. We practiced 2 hours a day, Monday through Friday over the summer," Joyce continues.

The team's success hasn't come without its share

of one player." Seigle has since returned and has shown no evidence of his foot injury, rushing for 4 touchdowns in just two games. Those two games were both wins, the first coming in Manchester under the Friday night lights, and the second on Senior Day against rival Simsbury.

Simsbury's Cleveland Patterson had lead the conference in rushing, but proved no match for the vaunted run defense. Says Zevin, "Our run defense is fantastic; the most rushing yards we've allowed has been 73."

This success is especially impressive considering the running backs the team has squared off against, including Bryan Ferguson of New Britain and Baldwin Cunningham of East Hartford. "We have great respect for the running backs we've faced, but we're not intimidated," Zevin explains. Zevin and senior John Shea are first and second in the conference in tackles.

In addition to compiling a fantastic season, the team continues to nurse playoff hopes. If they win against Windsor and if 3-6 Bloomfield is able to beat 7-2 New Britain, a playoff berth could still be possible.

No matter what the outcome, though, the team will come away with something that goes beyond win and loss columns.

"I'll never forget any of the guys playing on that field with me," says Joyce. "You always see in movies stuff how the guys on the team become your brothers, and this year I know what that's like. I really do see this team as another family."



Fall Sports Review

By Clara Chan
Staff Editor

Congratulations to **Girls' Swimming and Diving** for another undefeated season that marks their third continuous year as CCC WEST champions. Under the leadership of captains Hollis Viray, Clara Chan, and Larken Petardi, the young team has shown amazing talent and depth, which will be needed in the upcoming state meets.



The Girls' Field

Hockey team, led by captains Jess Timpano and Kristen Broggini, also emerged victorious as CCC NORTH champions. The team approaches the state tournament with a nearly perfect record and a confidence boosted by their awesome second place ranking in class L.

Back inside, the **Girls' Volleyball** team serves it up with captains Suzie Catizone and

Kelly McGann, who led the team through another good season. Without losing focus, the girls continue to practice for the approaching state tournament.

Out on the river, the **Boys' Crew**, led by captains Paul Williams and Pat Houle and the **Girls' Crew** by captains Katie Potter and Lizzie Megson recently rowed at the Head of the Fish in Saratoga, New York. Both

teams ended the season well, as the boys finished fifth and the girls came in ninth.

Where would we be without the cheerleaders? The squad, under the leadership of captains Lindsay Addazio and Jessica Scougall worked well and contributed to the success of the many fall teams with their enthusiastic support.

Soccer Teams Finish Strong

By David Pucino
Staff Editor

The girls' soccer team ends the season 10-5-1 and having made it to the second round of playoffs. Their record is especially impressive since the team lost 13 seniors, including last year's captain and State Player of the Year Jessica Diakun. The season did not start well. "It was a little hard for us all to get used to playing with each other," says senior Kristina Hartman. Injuries compounded the problem. At one point, six of the team's starters, including captain Nikki Musto, were either playing hurt or were out altogether. Five games into the season and playing against Hall, things started to turn around. Captain Hanne Walleck says that all the adversity helped bring the team together. "We knew that our teammates were injured, so you saw a lot of other players helping them out on the field, marking their man if they couldn't get back, or going in for a tough tackle that they knew an injured player could not make."

After winning their final game of the season 2-0 over

Manchester, the girls moved into the state tournament. After winning their first-round match 3-0 against Bunnell, the girls fell 1-0 to Masuk. Still, the girls come away feeling proud of their accomplishments. "We played with heart showed strong team work ethic," says senior Lisa Monarchio.

The boys also made the playoffs, following a dramatic win Monday, October 31. Down 1-0 in the final game of the season against rival Simsbury and with the conference title on the line, captain Dan Kissane's confidence did not waiver. "We knew we had no choice but to come back." The team did just that; Sean Kaukus scored twice and Pierre Serrao once, bringing the final score to 3-1. The win capped a season-ending five game winning streak and secured the CCC North title, their sixth in seven years. As playoffs started, the team kept on rolling, outscoring opponents a combined 8-0. After squeaking out a 1-0 win in the first round against Bristol, the boys really turned it on, upsetting sixth-seed Hall 4-0 in the second

round to set up a rematch against third-seed Newtown. Last season the two teams also met in the quarterfinals, with Newtown emerging victorious. Senior Chris Doyle was not worried. "When we play up to our potential, we can beat anyone. Each of our three losses have been by only one goal." The team got its revenge, ousting Newtown from the playoffs with a 3-0 win and setting up a semifinal match against second-ranked Norwich Free Academy.

Two years ago, the boys went to the finals, only to tie Simsbury in a scoreless game and share the title. Last season ended in the quarterfinal loss against Newtown. Kissane resolves that this year will be different. "We're not stopping until we get to the championship, and when we get there, we're not tying."

What is the barometer for success for a team that has won so much in the past? Says senior Kevin Ebaugh, "To consider this a success, I think we have to leave the field of our last field knowing that it represented the work we have put in all season, win or lose."

SPORTS

Frisbee's Sport Status: No Longer Up In The Air

By Ben Alter
Staff Writer

Robert Greene once said, "Thy breath is like the steame of apple-pyes." Though I am not entirely certain of the context, I happen to believe that this is a rather profound statement. What could be more fitting for a team motto than the first literary reference to a fruit pie? And what team exactly would choose such a statement to represent themselves? The Pye Guys Ultimate Frisbee, that's who.

It is understandable that many of you do not know of us, as we have just now been officially organized as an intramural sport with Mr. Ramos serving as advisor. Soon, however, our success on the field will be commonplace and mere mention of our name will bring forth unending reverence. Or something like that.

Ultimate Frisbee has been at GHS for quite some time but never really recognized; the legacy of Ultimate far surpasses the average person's ideas of gym "Frisbee."

It is not only a great national sport, but an international one as well. Teams from Latvia, Finland, New Zealand, the UK, and countless others constantly compete under the World Flying Disc Federation (it's "Flying Disc" because Frisbee is a trademark, blame Whamo, Inc. for that one) to be ranked as one of the greatest

teams in the world. With such an infrastructure for competition already in place, it is no wonder that a few of us have ventured out to join the Frisbee community.

As we have found out recently, the road to becoming a full fledged varsity sport is paved with really big rocks. At



present we are four years away from being a "true sport," but this sad fact has not deterred some of our fellow class mates.

In fact, the denouncement that we will not survive the "trial period" has made us work harder and yearn more for

that ultimate goal. Despite adversity, we aspire to belong to the now-forming Connecticut High School Ultimate Frisbee League (didn't see that coming, did ya?).

Despite our apparent problems, there are reasons we all enjoy the game. Besides getting to run around and dive on the ground, it is the atmosphere that frisbee is legendary for. Ultimate players are some of the weirdest, but also nicest, people you will ever know.

Not only does the team practice and work hard, but we also do less strenuous stuff, too. I mean honestly, with all the Cross Country dropouts on the team, we have to do some fun things every now and then.

Besides the people, there is tradition. For as long as frisbee has been around, each player has passed down the skills he has accumulated to the next generation. That is just the nature of the game. Responsibilities are shared, both uniting the team and forcing each player to make himself play harder.

If given the opportunity, either come and play with us or give us some money, because we're dirt poor. And if you can't make the commitment or you're broke, then at least come out and show your support. But seriously, we need some money.

Also, if you're interested in playing, just ask me or any one else who looks cool, because chances are they play Ultimate. All are welcome.

XC Continues Legacy

By Dan Simonich
Staff Writer

When Phil Mitchell graduated last year, many thought his legacy would hover over the GHS Cross Country team for years. But while it's still too soon to forget the achievements of last year's senior class, the team has plunged forward into the 2005 season.

and John McMahon, along with junior Chris Klobedanz and freshman Cody Otto. They also placed second in the Wickham and Windham Invitational races.

Along with these victories comes quite a bit of hardware. Klobedanz exclaims, "We've got two trophies, two plaques and a banner, and we're



Sophomore Don Cabral and Junior Robbie Dugger, both of whom played soccer last year, have finished first and second in nearly every

race they've entered this season, even beating some of Phil's times from when he was the same age. The team is 16-0 in the CCC North Conference, and are conference champions for the first time since 1988. They came in first in the Greater Hartford Invitation, buoyed by the top seven runners: Cabral, Dugger, and seniors Kevin Ford, Ben Hedges,

going for more!" And the team is on track to be the first boy's Glastonbury Cross Country team to qualify at New Englands.



But the achievements aren't all on the boys' side of the path. The girls' team, anchored by sophomore Kristen Mitchell and junior Jamie Olsen, are once again performing tremendously. The girls placed first in the Windham Invitational

and third in Vermont's Woods Trail Run. Together with Emily Harris, Amanda Lusa, Liza Navarro, and Siobhan Wilcox, they placed first in the CIAC Class Championship Race at Wickham Park, with Mitchell and Olson placing first and second.

Both teams made it all the way to New Englands, where the boys placed sixth and the girls eighth on the strength of Mitchell, who placed 6th overall.

What are some of the secrets to the team's success? Senior Jake Schnaidt mentions, "My favorite band to listen to when preparing for a race is the Ilio-tibial Band."

Other than that, it's just hard work and long hours of training for these underappreciated members of the Glastonbury athletic scene. So be sure to look out for the teams out on the streets of Glastonbury doing their interval workouts. Dugger advises, "If you see a bunch of half-naked kids running on the side of the road, it's us, so be sure to give us a honk!"

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Arts and Entertainment

Interview with a Pulitzer-Nominated Writer

By Katelin Chow
Staff Editor

Ruth "Pit" Pinegar is unlike the stereotypical vision of a writer; she is neither bitter nor cynical about her craft and life. In fact, she has no reason to be, as one of her books of poems, *The Physics of Transmigration*, has been nominated for a 2006 Pulitzer Prize.

A Pulitzer Prize is a prestigious award given out to twenty-one lucky writers. The selection of a Pulitzer-nominee is tedious, consisting of a 102-person judging panel that is broken up into twenty separate juries asked to select only three writers to be nominated. This award is quite an honor to receive – to simply be nominated is something to be proud of, and also something that comes with bragging rights.

However, Pinegar's skills do not stop at writing. She is also a photographer, teacher, performer and creativity and life skills consultant. As an accomplished writer, she enjoys helping other people to grow to their full potential in both fiction and poetry. During the school year, Pinegar is the Creative Writing teacher at the Academy of the Arts in Hartford where she leads teenagers through the workshop process of writing. In the summer, Pinegar devotes five weeks of her time to guiding the fiction-writing class at the Center for Creative Youth, an overnight summer arts program at Wesleyan

University for teenagers. She is also the principal of A Creative Life, a program that helps individuals and organizations, such as businesses and schools, enlarge their creativity.

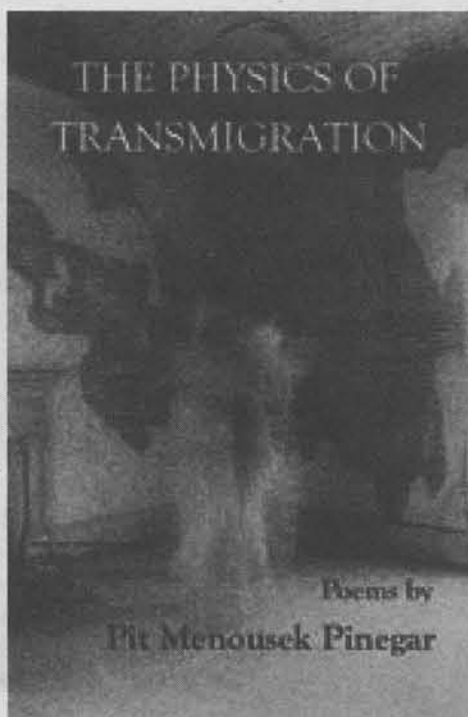
K: What inspires you to write?

P: Usually something that I see or hear – a memory, someone else's poem or story which leads me to a possibility [that] I hadn't considered [yet]. [It] might just as easily be a student as a new or favorite author.

K: What has influenced your work and style as an author/poet?

P: The limitations of time. I never aspired to be a poet. I imagined writing the great American novel while my infant children slept (and grew up)... I came to poetry because I could often do a first draft of a poem in twenty minutes... and poetry benefits from being picked up and put down a hundred times. Even short stories seem to need more time and consistency than that. I continue to write poems because it seems to... be the only way to deal with certain kinds of subjects.... By the time I got around to writing plays and novels and stories and personal essays, all of those forms were influenced by the fact that I was a poet. As a young writer I over-wrote... I liked big words, prose that

meandered and took its time getting to the point, dialogue that was cumbersome (and not at all natural). The brevity of poetry "cured me" of my greatest shortcomings as a prose writer.



K: What made you decide to focus your life on writing, and when did you begin to write?

P: I started out a dancer. When I was twelve, I was operated on for a tumor that left me unable to dance. I was one angry kid... and then some teacher said something like, "You have a way with words," and I began to see another life for myself, another kind of ambition. It helped that my mother had a friend who wrote mystery novels for a living. Her

daughter and I were adolescent consultants. We'd tell her whether her characters would or would not say the words she'd given them. The three of us would have lively arguments in her study. So writing was always something real (as opposed to dream and nebulous and unattainable)... When I was in the hospital after the surgery that ended my dancing, the woman's editor at Doubleday sent me a box of books. I can still remember some of those stories in greater detail than I remember books I read last summer... so maybe the seeds were planted then.

K: What are some difficulties that you encounter when writing?

P: I don't experience any difficulties when writing. It's when I can't find time and space to fit it in that I encounter difficulties... And finding time to do the much-less-interesting clerical tasks of writing is a real challenge: sending out the poems, the essays, the stories, the novels. Talk about tedious and time-consuming!

K: What advice would you give to aspiring writers and poets?

P: To read voraciously and to write every day... it doesn't matter what you write... it's a habit you want to cultivate.

Write a haiku... write a two sentence thought that you want to think more about later... Something. Anything. And it doesn't matter much what you read, either. Ideas are everywhere: in a *People* magazine... on a highway billboard, a book you'd never find in school, in every book you find in school (literary, math, science). Your "material" is everywhere.... Pay attention to the world around you. Use all of your senses. Eavesdrop. Imagine what happened before or what comes after the moment you are observing. Wonder constantly about the people around you... why they do what they do. Wonder about your own emotional responses and behaviors. Writing is a little like mounting a full-scale investigation into everything that happens... inside and outside of yourself. A writing teacher once said to me that the difference between writers and other people is that writers can make good use of all garbage that comes their way. That's probably true. But no matter how challenging a life may be at any particular time (or in all times), if we're paying attention to what's around us, we can be overwhelmed with beauty, as well – and as often – as by challenge. We live in a world where only the big and the bad and the ugly get press; maybe its part of a poet's job to write about the small and the good and the beautiful. Not all of it, certainly, but part of it.

"Flightplan" is Unrealistic Entertainment

By Jocie Kluger
Staff Editor

"Flight Plan" could be three excellent movies, but currently, it is one crumbling hodgepodge. While the acting is superb, the plot is incoherent.

The story begins shortly after the death of Kyle Pratt's (Jodie Foster) husband and six-year-old Julie's (Marlene Lawston) father. The mother and daughter prepare to fly from Berlin to New York, where they will be near the home of Kyle's parents. Pratt does during the first few hours of the flight to their new home, and wakes up to discover her daughter missing. The mother immediately suspects Julie to be in danger, but the onboard flight attendants are of little assistance in the search for the missing child.

About forty-five minutes into the movie, the storyline sharply veers in a new direction, then to another fifteen minutes later, and yet again after an added twenty. The abrupt changes in plot are completely out of the blue and have little connection with preceding events. They bring to mind the image of a screenwriter running out of ideas, who finally gives up and decides, "I'll just pretend some man in row thirty-seven was behind all of it." The end of the film barely associates with its beginning.

Not only is the story disorganized, but unrealistic as well. Finding a missing child aboard an airplane can be solved in any logical way, but none of the thirty characters acts sensibly. When Kyle's first glance around

the cabin fails to spot her daughter, Pratt's anxiety level



quickly elevates to an outright panic. She causes a commotion and goes so far as to disobey

the captain's orders. The flight attendants proceed unsympathetically during the search, and regard the pursuit as a joke, neglecting to carefully inspect all parts of the aircraft. During a similar situation in the real world, at least a few flight attendants would show an inkling of respect for their clientele and carry out their jobs with some responsibility. Also, the script claims that not one person aboard the plane notices Julie before her disappearance; the probability of such an incident occurring is absurd.

Despite fatal errors in the plot, the actors are stupendous. As expected, Jodie Foster pulls off an amazing performance, especially when transforming

herself among the varying dispositions of her character.

Peter Sarsgaard is another lead who plays his role with perfect balance. He provides subtle hints of his hidden personality, but never supplies enough information for audience members to pin him down as good or evil. The other actors and actresses play their parts equally well and compensate for the burdensome story line.

Even though the random itinerary of the film is baffling, unexpected plot twists do keep audience members on their toes. Viewers' interest is further held by a decent pace of events, a great change from other modern movies where events drag past their suitable lengths. All components accounted for, this motion picture gets a B.

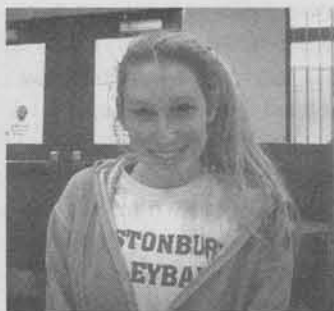
The Roving Reporter

Don't you hate it when...?



...ceiling tiles fall on your head.

-Mike Andrea '06



...you dislocate your captain's shoulder.

-Pam Fisher '07



...you go to the drive-through and it takes forever and when you finally get it, it's cold and it's not your order.

-Mary Walker '08



...it's like 10 degrees in the chemistry room.

-Claire Simonich '07



...you find out your nationality.

-Daniel Utset '07



...the Red Sox are left with "maybe next year" again.

-Daniel Teague '08

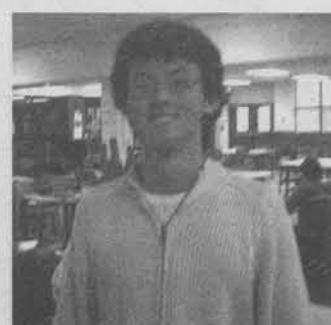


...the librarians kick you out.

-Gramoz Mimz '06

...they don't have veggie burgers second period.

-Vinh Vuong '06



...pedestrians that you just yielded to take their jolly old time crossing the street.

-Roy Wang '06



...paper gets folded at the corners and I can't unfold it.

-Su Kim '06

...pasta runs out.

-Sid Kommura '06

AJ Lynch's Musical Jamboree

By AJ Lynch
Staff Editor

Well, the school year's started up once again, and so has my record player. And so now I bring you reviews of the music you should be listening to, at least in my humble opinion. (Which, in all honesty, isn't really that humble.)

Extraordinary Machine, by Fiona Apple

You may have heard about the record-company purgatory to which this album has been sent over the past four years. Originally recorded in 2001, Ms. Apple decided that she was not happy with the final product and shelved it. It was available, in its entirety, about a month later on the internet. Go figure. She recently rerecorded it with a different producer, and the results are, if you like Fiona Apple, absolutely amazing. That's sort of a given, though. Here's the "I've never really liked Fiona Apple" perspective: If you don't like her, and you do so with a pas-

sion, you won't like it. It's still Fiona Apple singing, still Fiona Apple's music, and still Fiona Apple's lyrics (Though they are, devastatingly perfect in this



instance). It's not going to change your perspective. However, if you've never liked her because she's never impressed you, you should listen to this album. It could push you over to the Pro camp. Or, on the other hand, it could push you definitively to the Anti. This is her best album yet, which means it will also be her most decisive.

Let us see what else is out there. If you don't mind a delay, and with this paper, you really have no choice, there's

always Kanye West's Late Registration.

His first album, The College Dropout, was hailed as a masterpiece. This one might actually be one. I don't listen to rap that much/ever, but I find the hooks and samples used in this album pretty much irresistible. Really. I'm a sucker for rap songs that sample old songs, for the entirety of the ditty (Get it? Diddy, ditty? It's a hip-hop joke). This is why Gold Digger is a brilliant piece of work. Sure,

the hook is made up, but it works really well, and the beat is infectious. I even liked the slower songs like, pun not intended, "Drive Slow," featuring Houston rapper Paul Wall and a cool-jazz loop. Check out this album, even if you aren't crazy

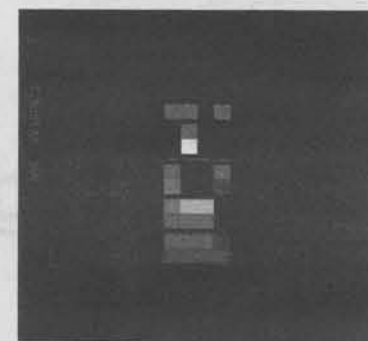


about rap. You may be surprised.

Finally, since I am an art student, and I like to stay in touch with my feelings, there's Coldplay's newest offering: X&Y.

Coldplay has become the world's biggest band. They have. And it's not undeserved; anyone who listens to A Rush of Blood to the Head knows instantly that they're not all fluff. This fall they are touring to promote their new album, X&Y. And, while not as good as their last album (little to nothing else out there is), it's still very solid. Blender Magazine gave it five out of five stars, which is just a touch extreme. X&Y is good, but not that good. More appropriate would be three and a half or four stars. As for the sound, it's a bit more sonic than

their previous entries, be it ARoBtH's willingness to explore different instruments, tunings and scales (Seriously, there are at least five different



guitar tunings on the album. I think three songs use standard tuning) or Parachute's more acoustic-oriented sound, and the album has a very polished sound to it. It's good. I would like another ARoBtH, but for now I'll settle for X&Y. And you should too.

That being said, I'm going to leave you now. It's sad, I know, but I'll be back soon, I'm sure. Have fun, and keep on listening.

Stereotypes in Glastonbury

By Tariq Islam
Staff Writer

Have you ever noticed that Glastonbury is a town with a lot of stereotypes? We have our jocks, preppies, skaters, "ghetto" people, and posers. This town is all about clichés and who you belong with. Glastonbury always claims to be "diverse" but in this town being different is like a crime. Whether you like to admit it or not, Glastonbury High is one of the least open schools in the state. I've lived

in other places but only in Glastonbury have I found that being unique is considered a negative. Everyone wears

Opinion

Abercrombie, Hollister, American Eagle, and Aeropostale, and it's like if you don't wear those things, you won't fit in. When I was in 6th grade, I used to try to fit in by

wearing those clothes and I tried so hard to impress people, but in the end I have my own philosophy: "People should like me for me." I am a person who gets along with pretty much every group. Listen, I still wear American Eagle and Aeropostale, but I wear it because I like it, not because I am trying to fit in. I can wear "skater" and "ghetto" clothes, and I wear these things because I like the clothing, not because I am trying to be someone that I am not. I am a

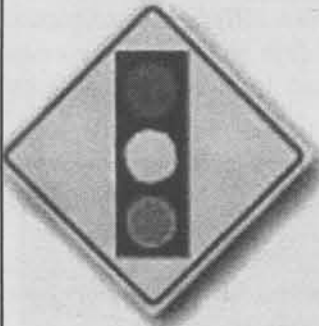
person who gets along with pretty much every group. I would label Glastonbury as a "rich, predominantly white East Coast town." Here, everyone loves using racial stereotypes with random people that they don't know. It's a big problem. When I joke around with a friend, that's okay because I know him, but when random people say things like that just to joke around it's different. That's a huge problem over here. We call Glastonbury High a very prestigious school,

but the people here are closed to others' ideas, and that makes us look divided. I love sports, but here people let it consume their lives, and if you don't play a sport you don't fit in. We always have to win, or at least try very hard to. I am proud of Glastonbury Sports, but I am not proud of how this town emphasizes it over everything else. Don't get me wrong, I do like the administration and other people here, but I just think Glastonbury has problems and the fact is that no one wants to admit that we do.

Puzzle Solutions

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6	7	9	3	8	5	4	1	2
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7	2	6	8	1	4	3	5	9
3	1	8	7	5	9	2	6	4
4	9	5	2	6	3	1	7	8



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